

# Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

February 17, 2014

[www.op97.org](http://www.op97.org)

## Important Dates

### March 3-7

ISAT Testing

### March 18

Science Fair

### March 31-April 11

CogAT

### April 21-May 2

IAAT (algebra placement test)

### April 25

Rockin Lock In

### May 14

Robert Crown Field Trip

### May 16

Transition Picnic

### June 6 (tentative)

Pool Outing

### June 9 (This is a CHANGE)

Completion Ceremony

### June 10

Last Day of School (Calendar Change)

## Typing Practice

Students can log on to Custom Typing from home to practice keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

**Art** - [www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) 5th graders have finished creating their petroglyph clay slab boxes. We carved symbols into the clay, fired the clay and then painted them. These will be going home this week. We are beginning a unit on advertising where students will be creating ads for local businesses. We are learning about the parts of an ad and what makes an ad effective. We will be participating in the Wednesday Journal's "Design an Ad" contest.

**Music** - Half of the classes will be doing a complex folk dance during one of the classes since we have an extra day due to Presidents' Day. We will continue with folk dancing during the weeks of ISAT testing so that students get to move around and invigorate their bodies. Movement breaks have been shown to help with focus.

**Chorus** - We had a wonderful assembly performance with the band, orchestra, and gold belt ensembles recentl and are currently working on our songs for the District Festival. Permission slips will be distributed digitally soon.

**Spanish** - Students have been working with the story "Carlos y los Tres Monstruos." In their groups, they made changes to the story and acted it for the class. The story is posted on the blog and students are able to read the story to someone for 10 extra puntos. We will be having assessment on the story this week. <http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/> .

**Library** - Greetings! This week we will be talking about using good keywords for searching. We'll be using our skills of evaluating websites, and coming up with good keywords. It's all starting to come together! READING OLYMPIANS: Keep reading! Our school competition is a little over a month away on March 12th. For more information, the library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/> . As always, feel free to email me with questions [mmaneck@op97.org](mailto:mmaneck@op97.org) .

**Physical Education** - ([www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com](http://www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com))

### **Resource**

Ms. Rose has created a new blog for the families of her Resource students. For more information on her activities, please visit: [Ms. Rose- Resource Support](#)

### **Reading/Literature**

This week we will continue looking at Common Core Standard RL5.5 that has students understanding the structure of a story. We will continue to create unique pirate stories using the Toontastic app. This app helps students focus on the structure of a story because it uses a story arc (setup, conflict, challenge, climax, and resolution). On Friday, students will show what they know as we finish our exploration.

Also, our 5<sup>th</sup>-grade **Literature Circle** is in progress! Students are responsible for reading a portion of their book and completing the role task sheets each week. The first page of their Literature Circle workbook says what pages they should be reading and which role they have this week. The roles rotate each week so every student will have the opportunity to be the scene setter, super summarizer, character sketcher, and conflict connector. Please check-in with your student and ask if he/she is ready for their Friday book discussion!

### **Writing**

In writing we will begin to explore topics for our American Revolution research paper. Students will be assigned a specific battle and asked to research a number of aspects of it.

### **Math**

We will continue working with fraction multiplication this week as we extend what we have learned to mixed numbers. We will then discuss scaling, and how students can estimate the size of a product

based on a scaling factor. Towards the end of the week, we will work with dividing fractions by whole numbers and dividing whole numbers by fractions. With division, the emphasis will be on using visual models to understand the process. Once students are confident in their ability to explain fraction division, we will move on to the algorithm involving reciprocals.

### **Science**

In Science this week, we will introduce the concept of volume and work on determining the volume of prisms. The Science Fair will take place on Tuesday, March 18, 2014. We will work with students on planning sheets, but experiments must be conducted at home. The science section of the wiki will be updated with information throughout the process.

<http://holmes5thgradescience.wikispaces.com/Science+Fair>

### **Social Studies**

In Social Studies we will begin to research specific battles of the American Revolution. Students will be assigned a specific battle and complete research with the use of our Ipads, as well as, books. Next week, we will work in Social Studies and writing time to beginning writing our research papers, focusing on a number of writing skills and strategies.

### **Spelling/Word Study**

Students will be receiving words this week, and the Spelling Test will be on Friday. Also, students should complete three spelling activities for homework. This is also due Friday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

**We're on the Web!**

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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